

The Arch-Chancellor stood near a table with a rich velvet covering over it, upon which was a register held by Count Renault de St. Jean d'Angely, the Secretary of the Imperial family's household. After taking the Emperor's orders the Arch-Chancellor put the following question to him in a loud voice : "Sire, is it your Majesty's intention to take for your lawful wife her Imperial Highness the Archduchess Maria Louisa of Austria, here present ?"—"Yes, sir," was the Emperor's answer. The Arch-Chancellor then addressed the Empress : "Madame," he said, "does your Imperial Highness, of your own free consent, take the Emperor Napoleon, here present, for your lawful husband?"—"Yes, sir," she replied. The Arch-Chancellor proceeded then to declare, in the name of the law and of the institutions of the Empire, that his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon and her Imperial Highness the Archduchess Maria Louisa of Austria were duly united in marriage. Count Kegault de St. Jean d'Angely presented the act for signature, first to the Emperor, afterwards to the Empress, and lastly to all the members of the family, as well as to the different personages whose official ranks entitled them to this honorable privilege.

Next morning the Imperial couple left St. Cloud in a carriage drawn by eight cream-colored horses, preceded by an empty carriage drawn by eight gray horses, which was intended for the Empress ; thirty other carriages all one mass of gilding, and drawn by superb horses, completed the *cortege*; these were filled with the ladies and officers of the household, and by those whose employments gave them the privilege of being admitted to the Imperial presence. The train left St. Cloud between eight and nine o'clock in the morning, and was escorted by the whole of the cavalry ; it passed through the Bow de Boulogne, the Porte Maillot, the Champs Elysees, the Place de la Revolution, to the garden of the Tuileries, where all the carriages stopped, to enable the company to enter the Palace.

From the iron railing of the court of the Palace of St. Cloud, both sides of the road were lined with so dense a mass of people that the population of the adjacent country must have flocked to St. Cloud and Paris on the occasion. The crowd increased on approaching Paris ; from the barrier to the Palace of the Tuileries it baffled all calculation. Orchestras were placed at stated distances along the Champs Elysees, and played a variety of airs. France appeared to revel in a delight bordering upon frenzy. Many were the protestations of fidelity and attachment made to the Emperor; and whosoever had ventured to predict at that time what has since come to pass would have been wonted as a madman.

When all the carriages had arrived, the Emperor's order of etiquette in the gallery of Diana at the Tuileries, and through a passage expressly constructed for this occasion, and terminating at the gallery of the Museum, which it terminated by the Imperial Pavilion of Flora.

Here began a new spectacle ; both sides of that immense gallery were